

## **Principles of Faith and Fellowship**

Living by faith means acceptance of the gospel.

- We may receive those who have obeyed the gospel plan of salvation; but a person who has not obeyed the gospel is not to be received.
- Those whose teaching undermines the gospel plan of salvation are to be rejected.

Living by faith means consistency with personal conscience.

- We may receive those whose who are conscientious in their spiritual walk; but those whose life is not in harmony with their convictions are not to be received.

- We may have fellowship with those with whom we disagree in matters of personal application; but not in collective matters since the personal conscience of others may be violated.
- We must respect the right of all brethren to follow the dictates of their conscience.

Living by faith means willingness to learn and accept new truth.

- We may accept those with whom we may have a disagreement while we study the difference and seek to come to mutual understanding; but those who are unwilling to study must be rejected.

Living by faith means walking by the Spirit and not by the flesh.

- Those who ignorantly engage in fleshly living are to be restored through teaching; but those who continue in fleshly living are to be rejected.

Living by faith means respecting the authority of the Lord through the Scriptures.

- We may accept those who show a commitment to the authority of the Scripture.
- In contrast to the conscientious man is the false teacher who purposely distorts the truth for his own advantage.